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U.S. Concedes It Is Behind Anti-Khomeini Broadcasts

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WASHINGTON, June 27 — American officials acknowledged today that the United States was responsible for clandestine radio broadcasts aimed at undermining the Iranian rule of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The programs, broadcast in Persian from transmitters in Egypt, one believed to be near Alexandria and the other near the Suez Canal, appear to have begun in the middle of May, the officials said, and were set up by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Spokesmen for the C.I.A. and other intelligence agencies, asked about the broadcasts, said they could not help in terms of denials or confirmations.

The idea for the project, one of a number conducted by the C.I.A.'s "unconventional broadcasting" section, was described by the officials as having come up during the winter. President Anwar el-Sadat, who inherited a large radio-transmitting capacity from his predecessor, Gamel Abdel Nasser, is said to have given personal authorization for the use of free time for the broadcasts.

Broadcasts Heard in Teheran

American correspondents who were in Teheran in mid-May said that the nightly broadcasts featured music by Gagoosh, a popular female singer from Iran, and news broadcasts aimed at undermining Ayatollah Khomeini's Government.

The nonentertainment portions of the broadcast, which were identified as coming from "The Free Voice of Iran," contained appeals to the Iranian Army not to engage in combat with Kurdish rebels. Some of the broadcasts indicated support for the exiled former Iranian Prime Minister, Shahpur Bakhtiar, who has been attempting to mobilize anti-Khomeini forces from his base in Paris.

The broadcasts included a call for "liberation of Iran," a description of Ayatollah Khomeini as "racist and fascist" and an appeal to Iranians to "take guns into your hands" in preparation for action.

The C.I.A. connection in Egypt was developed late last year after a White House meeting of the Special Coordinating Committee on Dec. 11 conducted by Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's national security adviser. The focus of the meeting, about five weeks after 53 Americans were taken hostage, was ways to expand American broadcasts to the Moslem world, including Iran and the 50 million Moslems in the Soviet Union.

Facilities Thought Inadequate

The Special Coordination Committee was appointed by President Carter two years ago to authorize and oversee covert operations by the C.I.A. and other intelligence agencies.

Mr. Brzezinski and his adviser on Moslem affairs and radio broadcast matters, Paul B. Henze, who is a former C.I.A. officer, were described after the meeting as being dissatisfied with the capacity of the Voice of America, which was then broadcasting two hours a day in Persian, and with the American-sponsored Radio Liberty, which was broadcasting a rather weak signal in some of the languages of Soviet Moslems.

It was decided after the meeting, the officials said, to explore the possibility of acquiring air time on the Egyptian transmitters for broadcasts to Iran and Soviet Central Asia.

President Sadat, who was a target of

Iranian attacks long before he provided exile in Egypt for the deposed Shah of Iran, agreed to the White House request, the American officials said. American officials said they believed Egypt had been promised additional transmitter facilities by the United States through the Agency for International Development to compensate for the Egyptian facilities used by the C.I.A. But a spokesman for the aid agency said the only equipment of which he was aware was a set of radar and radio control centers designed to improve communications for users of the Suez Canal at a cost of \$17.7 million. The equipment for that project arrived in Egypt only last month, the spokesman added.

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